

CENSUS OF POPULATION, 1971

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This Volume of the Report of the Census of Population, 1971, contains detailed classifications by age at which full-time education ceased and by highest type of educational establishment attended full-time in respect of the population aged 14 years and over. Classifications are also provided in respect of persons with scientific or technological qualifications.

The Census was taken on the night of 18th April, 1971, in accordance with the Statistics (Census of Population) Order, 1971 (S.I. No. 93 of 1971) made by the Taoiseach in pursuance of powers conferred on him by Sub-section (1) of Section 16 of the Statistics Act, 1926 and the Statistics Acts, 1926 and 1946 (Transfer of Ministerial Functions) Order, 1949 (S.I. No. 142 of 1949).

INFORMATION COLLECTED

The following particulars were collected in respect of each individual:- (i) Name, (ii) sex, (iii) relationship to head of household, (iv) usual residence, (v) usual residence one year prior to Census date, (vi) place of birth, (vii) date of birth, (viii) conjugal condition, (ix) date of marriage and number of children (for married women only), (x) religion, (xi) knowledge of Irish (for persons 3 years of age and over), (xii) method of transport and distance travelled to work or school and for persons aged 14 years or over:- (xiii) principal occupation, (xiv) employment status, (xv) name of employer and nature of employer's business, (xvi) age at which full-time education ended and number of years' attendance at school or college, etc. (for persons who had ceased their full-time education), (xvii) scientific or technological qualifications held and fields of science concerned. In addition the following information was collected in respect of each private household:- (i) total area and rateable valuation of agricultural holdings held by members of the household, (ii) nature of occupancy of dwelling (rented, owner-occupied, etc.), (iii) rent of dwelling, (iv) year house was built, (v) rooms occupied, (vi) type of water supply, (vii) availability of bath or shower, (viii) type of sanitary facility, (ix) electricity supply and (x) motor vehicles used by household.

COVERAGE OF THE CENSUS

The Census figures relate to the *de facto* population, that is to say the population recorded for each area represents the total of all persons present within its boundaries on the night of Sunday, 18th April, 1971, together with all persons who arrived in that area on the morning of Monday, 19th April, 1971, not having been enumerated elsewhere. Persons on board ships in port are included with the population of adjacent areas. The figures, therefore, include visitors present on Census night as well as residents while Irish persons temporarily absent from the State are excluded. The date of the Census was, however, chosen to coincide with a period when passenger movements were at a minimum and consequently the figures closely approximate to those for the usually resident population. Members of the Defence Forces who, on Census date, were serving abroad with the United Nations were, of course, excluded from the enumeration.

CLASSIFICATION BY EDUCATION

The Question on education on the Census form was as follows:-

Full-time education received			
State age at which full-time education ended.	If the person attended the following types of school or college full-time, state the number of years in each case. If the person did not attend, write "None".		
	Secondary	Vocational, Technical or Commercial	University or Higher Technical

In the accompanying notes, it was stated that the relevant questions should be completed for each person aged 14 years or over no longer receiving full-time education. No entry was to be made in respect of part-time education. Other points made in these instructions were:-

- (i) Secondary school includes the secondary top of a primary school.
- (ii) Vocational, technical or commercial includes schools of commerce, secretarial colleges, schools of domestic science, agricultural schools.
- (iii) University or higher technical includes the constituent colleges of the National University of Ireland, Dublin University, Maynooth College, College of Surgeons, National College of Art, college of advanced technology, teacher training colleges, military training college, major religious seminaries, agricultural colleges, veterinary colleges.

While persons were asked to make an entry in respect of each type of educational establishment attended, they were classified only by the highest level. No provision was made in respect of attendance at primary level only so persons indicating no attendance in any of the three categories specified on the Census schedule and persons making no entry at all were grouped under the heading "primary, including not stated".

A total of 105,057 persons did not state the age at which their full-time education ceased. These persons have not been included in any tables in the Commentary or in detailed tables giving percentage distribution of age education ended.

CLASSIFICATION BY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL QUALIFICATIONS

Part II of this Volume contains details on the subject of scientific and technological qualifications. This was the first occasion on which a question on this topic was asked at an Irish Census. The question on the Census form was as follows:-

Scientific or Technological Qualifications

If the person has such qualifications, state at (a) the qualification held and at (b) the main subject(s) in which held.

The accompanying notes indicated that this question should be answered for persons who held one or more qualifications of the type listed below in a branch of science or technology, including agricultural and medical science but excluding the social sciences, economics, geography, domestic science and nursing.

Qualifications	Examples of entries at (a)
University degree or University diploma of equivalent standard.	B.Sc; B.E.; M.E.; B.A. (Mathematics); M.B.; B.Ch.; B.A.Ö.
Associateship or Diploma awarded by an educational institution other than a University, following at least two years' full-time study (or equivalent part-time study) after the Leaving Certificate or its equivalent.	A.R.C.Sc.I; A.I.M.L.T.; Grad. I.E.E.; Grad. I. Mech. E.; Dip. Elect. E.
Graduate or Corporate Membership of a Professional Institution.	M.I.E.I.; A.R.I.C.; M.I.C.I.; M.I.Mech. E.; A. Inst. P.; F.I.M.L.T.

The main branch of science or technology in which the qualification(s) was held was asked for at (b) e.g. Agriculture; Horticulture; Veterinary Science; Medicine; Dentistry; Pharmacy; Biochemistry; Mathematical Physics; Architecture; Mechanical Engineering.

Valuable assistance and advice concerning the qualifications to be recognised as being relevant, the subjects to be distinguished and other aspects of coding and tabulating the data was provided by the National Science Council. The qualifications were coded on a subject matter basis according to the categories listed in Appendix A. Further categories were originally distinguished at the coding stage but, because of the small number of persons involved, they have been merged with other similar categories.

CLASSIFICATION BY OCCUPATION

All persons aged 14 years and over, including those who are out of work and those who are temporarily confined to hospitals, are classified to their usual principal occupation.

Occupations are divided into two broad categories, gainful and non-gainful, a gainful occupation being one in which the person is actively engaged and from which the livelihood is usually obtained. Persons in certain occupations who do not receive a fixed wage or salary are, however, also classified as gainfully occupied, the principal group of persons in this category being those assisting relatives in farm work. Persons engaged in home duties, persons at school, students, persons not yet at work and retired persons comprise the majority of the not gainfully occupied group. The occupation in the case of a gainfully occupied person, is determined by the kind of work performed in earning a living irrespective of the place in which, and the purpose for which, it is performed. Classification of the population by occupation thus brings together the numbers of persons engaged in the same type of work regardless of the purpose for which such work is undertaken.

The most detailed occupation classification used in the 1971 Census of Population is that shown in Appendix B. This classification is used in Table 18A of the present Volume. In the case of Table 18B, however, which contains similar particulars for females, occupations containing very small numbers have been grouped together. The composition of the occupational groups used in Tables 15A and 15B is outlined in Appendix C.

CLASSIFICATION BY INDUSTRY

The industry in which a person is engaged is determined (whatever may be his occupation) by reference to the business or branch of economic activity in which, or for the purpose of which, his occupation is followed. Thus, while the occupational classification is concerned only with work performed by the individual, regardless of its ultimate purpose or end product, the industrial classification is concerned only with the ultimate purpose or end product, regardless of the precise nature of the work performed. A single manufacturing concern or commercial undertaking may employ persons of many different occupations for the purpose of making a particular product or giving a particular service (for example, a brewery usually employs skilled craftsmen such as carpenters, electricians, etc.). Conversely, there are many cases in which particular occupations are largely confined to a single industry. For example, the majority of persons having agricultural occupations are in the industry of Agriculture and most miners are in the Mining industry. It will be noted that the term "industry" as used for Census of Population purposes is not confined to Manufacturing industry, but is regarded as being synonymous with the term "branch of economic activity". The industrial groups used in Tables 19 to 21 are outlined in Appendix D.

CONTENT OF THE TABLES

Part I of this Volume is concerned with education. In general, persons who were receiving full-time education at the time of the 1971 Census are not covered by these tables. They are, however, shown separately in certain tables to complete the picture in respect of the total population aged 14 years and over. Tables 1 to 4 provide comparisons with the situation in 1966. In Tables 1A and 1B, males and females are classified by present age and age at which full-time education ceased in both 1966 and 1971, while Tables 2A and 2B provide a percentage distribution, for each age group, by age at which education ceased. Tables 3A, 3B, 4A and 4B are corresponding tables classified by highest level of educational establishment attended.

The remaining tables in Part I deal with the year 1971 only. Tables 5A and 5B contain a detailed classification, by present age and age at which full-time education ceased, for males and females, while Tables 6A and 6B show the percentage distribution, by age at which full-time education ceased, for each age group. Corresponding information according to highest type of educational establishment attended is provided in Tables 7A, 7B, 8A and 8B. Tables 9A and 9B contain detailed classifications by present age, highest type of educational establishment attended full-time and age at which education ceased.

Information for Provinces, Counties and County Boroughs is given in Tables 10 to 13. In Table 14, gainfully occupied and not gainfully occupied males and females are distinguished and each group is classified by both age at which full-time education ceased and highest type of educational establishment attended full-time.

In Table 15A, males are classified by occupational group, highest type of educational establishment attended full-time and age full-time education ceased. Table 15B provides similar information for females while Tables 16A, 16B, 17A and 17B show the percentage distribution, for each occupational group, of males and females by both of the measures of educational level used in this Volume.

Tables 18A and 18B contain similar information to that in Tables 15A and 15B but for individual occupation headings. Tables 19A and 19B deal with industrial groups, again providing a classification according to both age full-time education ceased and highest type of educational establishment attended. Tables 20A, 20B, 21A and 21B again provide percentage distributions, as in previous cases, for industrial groups. Tables 22A and 22B classify males and females by individual industries and age full-time education ceased whereas Tables 23A and 23B are concerned with individual industries and highest type of educational establishment attended.

The second part of this Volume deals with Scientific and Technological qualifications. Table 1 provides a summary of the overall position, showing the numbers with qualifications in each branch of science or technology, distinguishing males and females, gainfully occupied and not gainfully occupied. Tables 2A and 2B classify gainfully occupied males and females by qualification and age group while Tables 3A, 3B and 3C show persons, males and females according to industrial group and branch subject of qualification. Tables 4A, 4B and 4C provide details for each Province, County and County Borough of the numbers in the four main branches of science or technology.